1/8/93 Special Memo to members of the Mineral King Action Committee

There's been some action:

Jim Ingram, your MKDA President, distributed the blue booklet, "Another Century in Mineral King," to permittees of record in mid-December. He has also asked Representatives Lehman, Dooley, and Thomas, for appointment time, so that members of this committee can meet in person to request help to introduce and pass a bill which will delete the eviction clause. He asked for time on week ends of **February 4-5, or February11-12, or February 18-19,** and said that we *preferred* the first week-end. (See sample of his letters, attached.)

Jim enclosed a copy of the booklet to each of the Congressmen. As yet, we haven't heard directly about our request for appointments but Lehman's staff has requested, and Jim has sent, five extra copies of the booklet. We're all appreciative of his many efforts.

Please see additional details on this page and on other side.

If it's at all possible,
Please hold these February dates : 4 - 5, 11-12, 18-19.
and plan to be with us for at least one Friday afternoon/ Saturday

Please hold the dates, and hope very much that all three Congressmen will agree to see us on the same week-end!

In the "best" case, they'll each agree to see someone from our group and the dates they suggest will fall on the same week-end. In the "worst" case, each of them might pick a different week-end. In that event, perhaps some of you who live in the valley could attend a meeting on two different week-ends, because those of us outside of the valley, if able to come at all, would probably be limited to just one trip. As dates are set, we'll suggest a plan and be in touch again.

According to last summer's plan, we agreed that committee members-- as many as possible --- would meet for at least a couple of hours, *before* we see the Congressmen, to " get our ducks in line," agree on approach and emphasis, etc. If we're given a Saturday appointment, that planning session could be held on Friday evening, or, possibly, at breakfast on Saturday ?

We'll need to make very similar approaches to Representatives Dooley and Lehman, to see if either, or both are willing to introduce a bill for us. They're both in the majority party. Our approach to Representative Thomas will need to be somewhat similar, as he,too, can be very, very, helpful. But, if the majority party members don't support, it probably wouldn't be useful if a minority member (Thomas,) is the *only* person willing to introduce.

On one of those Fridays , a couple of us should also make a " good will visit" with the Superintendent of Sequoia Park, to give him and his staff a copy of the booklet , explain our plan and hopes, and request their neutrality, if not support.

We will let you know as soon as Jim gets firm appointment times and he lets Ruth know.

MORE.....

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So far : very few responses to booklets.

Maybe they were welcomed as holiday gifts!

Last week, there were four responses: three very positive, and one permittee who wondered if deleting the eviction clause would take us as far as we'd like to go. That same person wondered if we needed an attorney to advise us on this matter. (An attorney did help informally as we developed the strategy eighteen months ago.) IF a Congressman decides to help us, he and his staff would be good consultants about this question. However, it's important that all of us permittees understand: EVEN if we rid ourselves of the " eviction clause," permits could still be denied if the Park Service uses a (formally adopted) plan to claim that we are incompatible.

Special thanks

to Jim Simons, member of Mineral King Action Committee, for initial contacts last summer and early fall, with Congressman Rick Lehman and his staff.

A Few Booklets are left...

if you're a permittee,you may not have seen one. Let Ruth know if you need one.
(Address below.)

Good Intentions? Re-Elections? Crowded Agendas? Sudden Death?

Congressmen Lehman, Dooley, and Thomas are all on the House Natural Resources Committee AND it's subcommittee which would consider, and recommend, (or not) our proposal.. *Two other Congressmen on that same subcommittee are from Oregon*...where we also have a permittee of record. Soon after we approach the San Joaquin Congressmen, we will approach the Oregon Congressmen, with hope that we could start our effort with Congress with *five* members of the subcommittee in our support!

If (even) *one* of the three majority-party persons among those five Congressmen pledges to introduce a bill, we can be hopeful. (And delirium might overcome us if MORE than one offers to do so!)

There are other realistic possibilities, too:

- *within a few weeks, each* of those five might suggest strongly that we're on a "fool's errand.."....in which case,we ought to say that our hopes are "dead,"

or,

- one or more of those five Congressman might tell us that they'd be glad to help.... but, as late summer of '94 approaches, we might see that no real action had been undertaken, for any number of good reasons. Since each Representative is up for re-election in November of this year, we would have to start "all over again" in 1995...and possibly with new Representatives. Time continues to be a big factor against us!

Sierra Club, Histories and Strategies

Copies of *informal* correspondence between friends...a national Sierra Club official and one of us... in regard to our current efforrts, are enclosed for your information. (See also pages 15 through 18 of the blue booklet.)

Our sympathies are with the many relatives of Katherine Locey Dungan, an east Mineral King permittee, who passed away recently. Dungans have been summer residents in Mineral King for more than eighty years.

Please *reserve* these special memos for your own use .

Please be in touch ! Ruth Shepherd, coordinating the Action Committee for the MKDA, at : (503) 343-7888 or 1765 E. 26th, Eugene, OR 97403

There are enclosures

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